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being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope hereby certify that this correspondence 2313-1450, on 10/13/04. addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application for:

Steven Teig

10/079,270 Serial No.:

Filing Date:

02/20/2002

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS

FOR COMPUTING PLACEMENT COSTS Examiner: Paul Dinh

Group Art Unit: 2825

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is concurrently filed with a Request for Continued Examination for the above-identified patent application. As provided in 37 CFR 1.192(a), this Preliminary Amendment is filed within two months from the date of a Notice of Appeal, which was received by the Patent and Trademark Office on 8-19-04. Accordingly, this Preliminary Amendment is timely filed.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

Attny Docket: SPLX.P0127 Cadence Reference Number: 2002-077 P 05

PTO Serial Number: 10/079,270